AMWHIP/1

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

S-E-C-R-E-T

ORIG : STEPHEN I. MENGER/mva
UNIT : DC/WE/4/K
EXT : 5559
DATE : 21 AUGUST 1963

☐ INDEX
☐ NO INDEX
☐ FILE IN CS FILE NO.

ROUTING

1		4	
2		5	
3		6	

21 Aug 63 21 28z

TO : ROME
FROM : DIRECTOR
CONF : WE 6
INFO : DDP, CI, CI/OPS, CI/OA, CCS 2, FI, EE 4, SAS 8, RF 2

SIG CEN
☐ DEFERRED
☒ ROUTINE

TO ROME INFO CITE DIR 62932

KEYWAY PBRUMEN

REF ROME 9965 (IN 01475)*

1. RECENT TALKS WITH AMWHIP 1 IN NEW YORK RE TRAVEL PLANS INDICATE PLANS BUSINESS TRIPS EUROPE THREE FOUR TIMES ANNUALLY SPENDING CIRCA TWO WEEKS EACH TRIP IN ITALY. ROUTINE BUSINESS MATTERS CAN BE EXPECTED OCCUPY CONSIDERABLE PORTION HIS TIME IN ITALY. WHILE AMWHIP 1 CONSIDERED ASTUTE ASSET WITH GOOD POSSIBILITIES ACCESS PBRUMEN TARGETS ITALY, HQS DOUBTFUL HE CAN MEET STA NEEDS FOR ASSET WHO IS READILY AVAILABLE FOLLOW UP LEADS, DEVELOP CLOSE RAPPORT TARGET PERSONALITIES IN RESIDENCE OR IN TRANSIT, MAKE PITCHES WHEN CHANCE ARISES. NECESSARILY LONG INTERVALS BETWEEN HIS STAYS ITALY WILL BREAK RHYTHM OF OP DEVELOPMENT AND MAKE HIM UNAVAILABLE TO ASSESS RECRUIT WHEN LEAD MATURES IN MATTER OF WEEKS.

2. ALSO SINCE HQS USES AMWHIP 1 OTHER AREA OPERATIONS, IT NECESSARY GUARD AGAINST CONTAMINATING HIS CLEAN REPUTATION WITH PBRUMEN REGIME THROUGH COMMENDABLE BUT OVERLY ZEALOUS EFFORTS HIS PART TO DO MOST FOR STA IN TIME AVAILABLE. FYI, WHILE CONSIDERED SHREWD SOPHISTICATED, HE HAS TOUCH OF COMMON PBRUMEN WEAKNESS OF BELIEVING HAND WILL NEVER BE CAUGHT IN COOKIE JAR AND CAN ALWAYS EXTRICATE SELF WITH PLAUSIBLE DENIAL.

RELEASING OFFICER — COORDINATING OFFICERS — AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

S-E-C-R-E-T

ORIG :
UNIT :
EXT :
DATE :

INDEX
NO INDEX
FILE IN CS FILE NO.

TO :
FROM: DIRECTOR
CONF:
INFO :

PAGE TWO

TO INFO CITE DIR 65932

3. CONCUR STA DECISION FUMARISCA.

4. PRIOR FINAL DECISION BELL, WISH SUGGEST ANOTHER POSSIBILITY, I.E., RECRUITMENT IDEN C OF DIR 44488, 4 JUNE 63. IDEN C HAS POA, IS VOUCHED FOR BY AMWHIP 1, AND EXPECTS TRAVEL ROME AT LEAST ONE WEEK PER MONTH TO ATTEND TO AMWHIP STORE. NEGATIVE FACTORS ARE HE IS UNKNOWN QUANTITY TO KUBARK REGARDING OP POTENTIAL, SUITABILITY FOR AND INTEREST IN CLANDESTINE ACTIVITIES. ON POSITIVE SIDE, AMWHIP 1 SAYS HE MOTIVATED HELP ANTI-REGIME ACTIVITY, AND HE PROBABLY PERSONA GRATA PBRUMEN TYPES ON SAME BASIS AS AMWHIP SINCE, UNLIKE BELL, DID NOT DEFECT PUBLICALLY AND NOT BEEN OVERTLY ACTIVE ANTI-REGIME MOVEMENTS. FURTHER, HIS PROXIMITY ROME AND FREQUENT VISITS WOULD GIVE STA CHANCE TRY HIM OUT BEFORE COMMITMENTS AND, IF STA FINDS HAS APTITUDE AND IS WELCOME PBRUMENS ITALY, HE COULD BE CALLED DOWN ON SPUR OF MOMENT FOR SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENTS IN ADDITION TO REGULAR VISITS.

5. MAIN PROBLEMS WITH BELL APPEAR TO BE (A) LACK PROOF HIS ACCEPTABILITY TO PBRUMENS (B) COVER TO BE USED HIS PERMANENCE ROME. IDEN C SEEMS OFFER POTENTIAL MIDDLE GROUND BETWEEN AMWHIP 1 AND BELL. COVER IS ALREADY ESTABLISHED. PROXIMITY IS ADEQUATE FOR REGULAR DEVELOPMENT TARGETS. ACCEPTABILITY TO PBRUMENS AND APTITUDE FOR WORK CAN BE TESTED WITHOUT MAKING DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS AND COMMITMENTS, AS WOULD BE CASE WITH BELL.

RELEASING OFFICER COORDINATING OFFICERS S-E-C-R-E-T AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

S-E-C-R-E-T

ORIG :
UNIT :
EXT :
DATE :

☐ INDEX
☐ NO INDEX
☐ FILE IN CS FILE NO.

ROUTING

1		4	
2		5	
3		6	

TO :

FROM : DIRECTOR

CONF :

INFO :

PAGE THREE

DEFERRED
XX ROUTINE

TO INFO CITE DIR 62932

6. IF STA WISHES CHECK IDEN C OUT, RECOMMEND FOLLOW UP SOONEST SINCE MAY STILL WISH FALL BACK ON BELL. SUGGEST STA OFFICER SHOULD TRAVEL SUISSE VISIT IDEN C OUTLINE PROPOSALS. NOTE HOWEVER HQS DOES NOT WISH AMWHIP 1 NAME BE USED. REALIZE THIS MAKES APPROACH BIT MORE DIFFICULT BUT BELIEVE IDEN C WELL AWARE ODYOKE INTEREST OBTAIN HELP ALL POSSIBLE SOURCES PBRUMEN OPS AND WILL ACCEPT STORY HIS NAME AROSE DURING CHECK BY ODYOKE OF PBRUMEN EXILES RESIDENT NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND VISITING ITALY PERIODICALLY. THOUGH KUBARK SUISSE HAS NO CONTACT IDEN C, PLS CABLE BERN GNVA INFO DIR PLANNING IF STA DECIDES VISIT IDEN C AND COORDINATE ON ARRIVAL SINCE THEY MAY WISH USE LOCALLY IN ADDITION TO OR IN LIEU OF ITAL USE.

7. FYI: IF IDEN C UNSUITABLE AND WISH PROCEED WITH BELL, BELIEVE ESSENTIAL SEND HIM ROME TDY PRIOR FINAL COMMITMENT TO ASCERTAIN CAPABILITIES AND ACCEPTABILITY PBRUMENS THERE. WHILE FINAL COVER FOR RESIDENCE WOULD BE RESPONSIBILITY STA AND DEVIGIL WOULD ATTEMPT ARRANGE COVER FOR TDY THROUGH KUVEST. KUVEST INDICATES SUCH COVER POSSIBLE THOUGH HAVE NOT TALKED CONCRETE TERMS PENDING DECISION IDEN C AND DEFINITE NEED FOR BELL.

END OF MESSAGE

*Rome prefers defer decision on BELL to get better reading AMWHIP/1 possibilities.

C/WE/INT [signature]
RELEASING OFFICER

EAS/EOB - Mr. Wainwright (coord in draft)
WE/5 - Mr. Sherman [initials]
COORDINATING OFFICERS

AC/WE/4 [signature]
AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

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4/18